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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named
Inventor : Evren Eryurek et al.

Appln. No.: 09/855,179

Filed : May 14, 2001

For : DIAGNOSTICS FOR INDUSTRIAL
PROCESS CONTROL AND
MEASUREMENT SYSTEMS

Docket No.: P32.12-0006

Group Art Unit: 2863

Examiner: X. Sun

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING
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4th DAY OF May, 2004

PATENT ATTORNEY

Sir:

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed February 17, 2004. In the Office Action, claims 1-5, 14-17 and 34-37 were allowed; and claims 28-33 were rejected. With this Response, no claims are amended and claims 28-33 are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Section Two of the Office Action indicated that independent claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Burns et al. (U.S. Patent 5,970,430) in view of Embree et al. (U.S. Patent 5,838,187). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the following.

The Office Action asserts, in section Two, that Burns et al. teach all aspects of independent claim 28 except for indirectly coupling diagnostic circuitry to the fieldbus process communication loop. The Office Action then turns to the teachings of Embree to allegedly supply a "technique of indirectly coupling